

PHILA., CHURCH—ASHLAND COLLEGE

849 WEST CUMBERLAND, ST., PHILA., PA., May 21, '94.

DEAR EVANGELIST: We had the worst rain storm yesterday we have had for many months, notwithstanding, we had fair congregations both morning and evening. One made application for baptism at morning service, and was baptized at the close of evening service; also a young lady was baptized who had made confession while Bro. Bashor was with us. Hence the good work is progressing.

The hard time for the church work here in this city is very near. Many of the churches close their doors for two months. The minister's take their vacation. This seems very strange to country people, but if you lived in the city a few years you would be much more charitable. Thousands go to the city for their health, and nearly all non-professors that remain go to the parks on Sunday's to get a little fresh air. Thousands of professors do the same. Hence religious work is a drag for about two months.

We feel that our cause here is so vastly important that we can't afford to let up. My school has now closed for the summer and I expect to work harder than ever and we have a number of members here who will stick to the work through all the hot weather.

From present indications we believe we can have the largest attendance in proportion to our membership, in this part of the city. If we can succeed in holding our own pretty well during the hot weather we hope to do a glorious work this fall and winter. Hence during the summer months we cannot hope for many additions, but we will try and become spiritualized and indoctrinated, for better future work. Pray for us.

COLLEGE REFLECTIONS.

We have had four dark dreary day's. Rain has fallen in torrents continuously. The lower parts of the city and surrounding country has been flooded. Darkness, gloom and distress has been the experience of every heart. Oh, how hearts have longed to see the clear blue sky and the beautiful blazing sun. We now appreciate these as never before.

While the darkness and gloom are spread over the heaven and over our souls we do not see their benefit, but after it is all over, we can see how it has been the cause of additional pleasure when the sun shines.

For twelve years the College has had dark clouds hanging over it. Almost constantly, rain has fallen in torrents upon it. It was overwhelmed and flooded with debts, and the darkness and gloom that hung over it caused sadness, distress, and pity on every hand. The stream had arisen to \$50,000. Then it fell to \$41,000, later \$20,000. Then \$17,000 later still \$16,000. Next unconditional note, bearing interest

swept away half that. This was also a great wind storm of conditional obligations of some ten or twelve thousand dollars. This apparently blew a great amount away, and dried up the balance. Since the wind has ceased the waves came rushing back and but a small part of this amount will be paid. Some of this will be paid, but how much no one knows. For this reason, the National Conference last year and also year before last thought best to raise \$5,000 more than we have.

Conference of '92, decided that \$15,000 should be raised. Until close of Conference of '93 we raised \$10,000. The finance committee last conference promised to immediately push the canvass and raise the other \$5,000. Canvassers being difficult to get, also the financial panic being upon us, they left the matter rest until now. This small sum is now being raised. Hence the rain has ceased, the waters are drying up the clouds are passing away and the sun is already peeping from behind the clouds, and we believe by fall the sky will be clear and the sun in all his pride and beauty will cast his rays directly upon Ashland College, and it will be loved and appreciated far more than it was before this great flood or could possibly have been without it.

Then those who during this great storm denied themselves of needed clothing and food for years, and stayed from conventions when they ought to have been there to save the college; then their hearts will go up to God in secret prayer and praise because for God's sake they with their families were induced to suffer willingly that his cause might prosper. Never until the day of judgment will the Brethren church know or appreciate the sacrifice that many of our poor brethren and sisters made for our college.

I felt to-day that if I was wealthy I would give the last \$5,000 and end this awful struggle at once. Many have given until poor and are unable to give more. Hence the \$5,000 ought to be given by others. This five thousand may be harder to get from the disinterested and covetous than the \$30,000 was from the interested—most of them poor. But if others won't pay it, as poor we are, we will pay the balance, and suffer a little more with our families rather than let the cause suffer longer and trust the Lord to prosper and reward us in the future for it.

I thank God for sending Bro. Haskins to Ashland to show to the brotherhood that the Lord has not forsaken the Brethren's cause at Ashland College. It was God's ruling I believe, that influenced the Evangelist to go to Ashland, also Bro. Garst, who is, I trust a consecrated indoctrinated Brethren.

With all these favorable indications there ought to be awakened some hope for Ashland College, even in the minds of the most sceptical.

I have now the most abounding

faith that God will bless the prayers and sacrifices by prospering the College. All this sacrifice and trouble was necessary to humble God's people, to cause us to appreciate the College, and to place unselfish, sacrificing men at the helm, that the College might become a noble factor in developing men and women until they will humbly accept and teach the whole Gospel of our blessed Savior.

There may yet be a few dark day's but God will prosper the College. If it is in harmony with God's will, my prayer is that God may move the hearts of our people to sacrifice self entirely and push our College to success.

ISAAC D. BOWMAN.

A CORRECTION—TWO BAPTIZED—COMMUNION.

OAKLAND, PA., May 21st, 1894.

Well, well, sometimes it is the writer's mistake and sometimes it is the editor's. It certainly is the editor's when he puts a caption to my article which says, a year in Brother Hetric's church, when if he had taken a second look at my short article he would have seen I simply gave an account of two or three months work. And then in the article to which I refer, instead of progress, read prayers, and you have my meaning. But I can sympathize with the editor. It is an error of the eye or head and not of the heart.

I come again with some news of progress in the work of our Master. On the second of May I baptized two brethren who are quite young, but gave promise of substantial work. On the fifth of May Bro. J. B. Wampler came among us and remained about ten days and reviewed the claims of the Advent people, making some strong points for the "Bible Alone" which will yield fruit by and by.

Our meeting closed with one of the most enjoyable communions it has been my privilege to witness. We are much encouraged with the prospects before us. I can say my soul doth magnify the Lord.

Although our circumstances have been rather discouraging, our effort is meeting with success, and while we are battling the foe here and there, the Lord is using us as instruments for which we praise his name and push the contest to victory singing, "By the grace of God we will."

D. J. HETRIC.

THE EVANGELIST CORRECTED—"CONSERVATIVES" TO HOLD MEETINGS.

WILLIAMSPORT, N. D., May 15, '94.

BRO. HARRISON. I wish to call attention to a little error in B. E., No. 18, saying since the college has been built there was not a time when Lord's day evening services were held. This is a mistake. When I lived there we had many evening services which I attended.

My attention was called to it by others who had attended or I should not have called attention to it.

I see a notice in the paper here that the Rev'd. E. B. Hoff, of Mt. Morris, Ill., of the Dunkard Persuasion will be in the ("ROOF SETTLEMENT") about June 1st, to hold some meetings, he is a fine man—was out here last year. He is not where he belongs—is more of a Progressive than Conservative. The Roof Settlement is some 8 or 9 miles east of here—six miles east of Williamsport. I hope he may do much good—it is needed.

Yours Truly,

JOHN KURTZ.

COMMUNION—YOUNG PEOPLE—A GIFT TO THE PASTOR.

EDITOR EVANGELIST:—Our communion, at Louisville, is now among the things of the past. It took place, on Sunday evening May 20th, and was a very enjoyable time. On account of rain and mud, which made travel very disagreeable, not near all our members had made their appearance—yet about eighty communed.

At the morning service a sister from the German Baptist church, came forth and cast her lot with the Brethren church. May the Lord abundantly bless her. We feel sure that others are near the kingdom.

Our Young People's Societies, are getting along very nicely and still gaining some in interest and numbers. Oh, if all our people, both old and young, who have vowed to God to be faithful, would put forth the proper efforts, what a grand work we might accomplish.

The pastor and his wife would also, hereby, acknowledge the reception of a beautiful quilt from the sister's of the Missionary Society, and for which they return their sincere thanks.

J. L. KEMMEL.

Louisville, O., May 22nd, 1894.

McFADEN AT PITTSBURG.

PITTSBURG, PA., May 25th, 1894.

DEAR EDITOR:—The Brethren in this place had somewhat of a surprise this week by having Bro. McFaden from Carleton, Neb., walk in on us and preaching for us on Wednesday. Bro. Mc. spent all his time though short, in making pop calls among those of his former acquaintances, while pastor of the church here in the city. It did not only do me good to see him but all the church. It called up many pleasant recollections of the past, and also many that were dark to some of those who lost their loved ones, and had Bro. Mack by their side to help comfort and console them in their hour of sore trial and affliction. The cause is still on the increase, adding some little each day. Times are still not what they used to be and many are still out of work which holds us as a church back on the financial line, but we all try and do what we can and leave the rest to the one who has said, "Never fear, little flock." Yes, he will provide.

Yours Frat.,

D. J. BOLE.